

sister, and I was lucky her guitar teacher had contacts, and lucky he knew of a medically competent doctor. But nobody should have to depend on luck to get a safe abortion.

Although that doctor tried to shame me, I am not ashamed. I don't think abortion is shameful and I have never had a moment's regret. My abortion allowed me to live the life I wanted and to become a parent when I was able to raise a child properly and responsibly. This was good for me and my life, but it is also a social and public health good. Abortion is a necessary part of family planning and women's healthcare and denying or restricting access to it means that women can not safely control their reproduction and therefore can't really control their lives, which means they can't participate fully and equally in society. It is bad social policy to hobble half of the population.

Women of my generation already know what pain and hardship results from abortion bans, but younger women have grown up taking abortion access for granted as a right, and I urge them to speak out and tell their stories. And not only women, but men, and other family members and friends who have been involved and who have been affected. Bring up your experiences in conversation, contact your legislators and tell them. They are the ones in immediate danger and whose lives and whose families' lives will be affected.

Senator PETERS' story, Kate's story, Wendy's story are just about how gut-wrenching these decisions are. These are personal decisions that women should make for themselves.

The Senate has no business taking up a vote on a Supreme Court Justice who is already committed to taking away healthcare from millions of people and to take away *Roe v. Wade* and this protection from millions of women.

We may not have the votes to stop them, but that does not change the fact that what the Senate Republicans are doing is wrong. We will continue to fight it. We will fight it now in the Senate, and we will fight it come election day November 3.

I yield the floor.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

#### NOMINATION OF AMY CONEY BARRETT

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, when the Senate considers nominees to the U.S. Supreme Court, it is particularly important that we act fairly and consistently, using the same set of rules, no matter which political party is in power.

When President Obama nominated Judge Garland 8 months before the 2016 Presidential election, I met with him and maintained that he was entitled to a hearing. Others argued that the winner of that year's Presidential election should be allowed to choose the nominee, and that is what happened. My views did not prevail, and the standard was established that a nominee to the Court would not be voted on prior to the election in a Presidential election year. This year, a vacancy has also occurred, notably much closer to the election.

Prior to Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's death, I stated that, should a vacancy on the Supreme Court arise, the Senate should follow the precedent set 4 years ago and not vote on a nominee prior to the Presidential election. Since her passing, I have reiterated that in fairness to the American people—who will either be reelecting the President or selecting a new one—the decision on the nominee to fill the Supreme Court vacancy should be made by whoever is elected on November 3.

Because this vote is occurring prior to the election, I will vote against the nomination of Judge Amy Coney Barrett. To be clear, my vote does not reflect any conclusion that I have reached about Judge Barrett's qualifications to serve on the Supreme Court. What I have concentrated on is being fair and consistent, and I do not think it is fair nor consistent to have a Senate confirmation vote prior to the election.

#### VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted yes on rollcall vote 201 on the Motion to Proceed to H.J. Res. 90, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency relating to "Community Reinvestment Act Regulations".

I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted no on rollcall vote 202, on the Motion to Table the Appealing of the Ruling of the Chair; a bill to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted no on rollcall vote 203, on the Motion to Table McConnell Amdt. No. 2680; to improve the small business programs.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted yes on rollcall vote 204, on the Motion to Table the Motion to Proceed to S. 4675; a bill to amend the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted no on rollcall vote 205, on the Motion to Proceed to Executive Session to Consider Michael Newman to be U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted no on rollcall vote 206, on the Motion to Table the Appealing of the Ruling of the Chair; nomination of Michael Newman to be U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have no on rollcall vote 207, on the Motion to Invoke Cloture on the Motion to Concur in the

House Amendment to S. 178 with Amendment No. 2652; a bill to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted no on rollcall vote 208, on the Motion to Table the Appealing of the Ruling of the Chair; nomination of Michael Jay Newman, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted no on rollcall vote 209, on the Motion to Table the Appealing of the Ruling of the Chair; nomination of Michael Jay Newman, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted yes on rollcall vote 210, on the motion to proceed to legislative session.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted yes on rollcall vote 211, on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination Michael Jay Newman to be U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted no on rollcall vote 212, on the Decision of the Chair; Shall the Decision of the Chair Stand as the Judgment of the Senate.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted yes on rollcall vote 213, on the Confirmation of Michael Jay Newman, of Ohio, to be U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted no on rollcall vote 214, on the motion to recess.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted no on rollcall vote 215, on the motion to proceed to legislative session.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted no on rollcall vote 217, on the motion to proceed to executive session to Consider the Nomination of Amy Coney Barrett to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted no on rollcall vote 218, on the Motion to Table the Motion to Indefinitely Postpone the Barrett Nomination.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted no on rollcall vote 219, on the Motion to Table the Motion to Recommit the Barrett Nomination to the Committee on the Judiciary.

I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted no on rollcall vote 220, on the Motion to Table the Appealing of the Ruling of the Chair; nomination of Coney Barrett, of Indiana, to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.